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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 21

Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 6th and 8th meetings, on 10 and 11 October 2018. Action on the item was taken at the 23rd and 26th meetings, on 8 and 30 November. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, on 8, 9 and 10 October.[2]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (A/73/307);

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.6, A/C.2/73/SR.8, A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.26.
[2] See A/C.2/73/SR.2, A/C.2/73/SR.3, A/C.2/73/SR.4, A/C.2/73/SR.5 and A/C.2/73/SR.6.

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(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (A/73/83-E/2018/62);

(c) Letter dated 4 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the forty-second annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 27 September 2018 (A/73/417);

(d) Letter dated 22 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Malawi to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 26 September 2018 (A/73/455);

(e) Findings and recommendations of the Open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226.[3]

4. At the 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat made an introductory statement.

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.[4]

6. At the 27th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee.[5]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.4 and A/C.2/73/L.4/Rev.1 and amendments contained in A/C.2/73/L.61

7. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" (A/C.2/73/L.4).

8. At its 26th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" (A/C.2/73/L.4/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of A/C.2/73/L.4.

9. At the same meeting, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, made a statement and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.4/Rev.1.

10. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, made a statement and introduced the proposed amendments contained in A/C.2/73/L.61.

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[3] Available at https://www.un.org/pga/72/wp-content/uploads/sites/51/2018/06/un-habitat.pdf.

[4] See A/C.2/73/SR.23.

[5] See A/C.2/73/SR.27.

11. Also at its 26th meeting, the Committee was informed that the proposed amendments had no programme budget implications.

12. At the same meeting, the Committee rejected the proposed amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.61 by a recorded vote of 111 to 45, with 12 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Turkey.

13. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.4/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

14. Also at its 26th meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution as orally corrected (see para. 15).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

15. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), including its resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 65/165 of 20 December 2010, 66/207 of 22 December 2011, 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014, 70/210 of 22 December 2015, 71/235 of 21 December 2016 and 72/226 of 20 December 2017,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[1] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling its resolution 71/256 of 23 December 2016, entitled "New Urban Agenda", in which it endorsed the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, as contained in the annex to the above-mentioned resolution,

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[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Reaffirming its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming also the commitment to urban and rural development that is people-centred, protects the planet and is age- and gender-responsive and to the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, facilitating living together, ending all forms of discrimination and violence and empowering all individuals and communities while enabling their full and meaningful participation, and reaffirming further the commitment to promoting culture and respect for diversity and equality as key elements in the humanization of our cities and human settlements,

Reaffirming further the commitment to promoting the systematic use of multi-stakeholder partnerships in urban development processes, as appropriate, establishing clear and transparent policies, financial and administrative frameworks and procedures, as well as planning guidelines for multi-stakeholder partnerships,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

Noting that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[3] can contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Reaffirming the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, given its role within the United Nations system as a focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities,

Reiterating that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda contributes to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated and coordinated manner at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders,

Reiterating also its recognition that, over the years, the responsibilities of UN-Habitat have changed considerably in their scope and complexity,

Recalling UN-Habitat Governing Council resolution 26/8 of 12 May 2017, entitled "Promoting the effective implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda",[4]

Recognizing the role of national, subnational and local governments, as appropriate, and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, throughout the process, including policymaking, planning, design, implementation, operation and maintenance, and monitoring, as well as the financing and timely delivery of services,

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[3] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/72/8), annex.

Aware that the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda requires enabling policy frameworks at, as appropriate, the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, effective means of implementation, including finance, capacity-building, technology development and transfer, on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, and mutually beneficial partnerships,

Reaffirming the importance of accountability, transparency and improved results-based management and further harmonized results-based reporting for increasing the quantity and quality of funding for operational activities, while recognizing the need to ensure an adequate quantity and quality of funding for the operational and normative activities of UN-Habitat, including its core resources, and the need to make funding more predictable, efficient and effective,

Recognizing the need to strengthen Member States' ownership, leadership and oversight of UN-Habitat,

Affirming that the focus of the work of UN-Habitat, in line with the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, should remain within the framework of sustainable development, with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions as its overarching objective, consistent with the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),[5]

Reaffirming the role of the World Urban Forum as an advocacy platform for all stakeholders in the fields of human settlements and sustainable urbanization, based on its non-legislative nature, and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Malaysia and to the city of Kuala Lumpur for hosting the ninth session of the Forum from 7 to 13 February 2018, which was the first session to have a thematic focus on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda adopted at Habitat III,

Governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

1. *Welcomes* the work of the open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226, as well as its report, and endorses its findings and recommendations on changing the governance structure of UN-Habitat;

2. *Decides* to dissolve the UN-Habitat Governing Council as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and to replace it with the UN-Habitat Assembly, in line with the findings and recommendations of the open-ended Working Group, also decides that the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly will be held in May 2019, building upon the preparations already carried out for the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council, and further decides that this shall take effect upon commencement of the first session;

3. *Also decides* that, in 2019, the Executive Board, after the election of its members by the UN-Habitat Assembly, shall meet for its first session in Nairobi for a duration of three days;

4. *Further decides* that the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN-Habitat shall prepare draft rules of procedure for the UN-Habitat Assembly, to be

[5] A/73/307.

completed no later than April or May 2019, with a view to their adoption at the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly;

Ensuring adequate funding and improving information to monitor funding trends

5. *Decides* that the additional requirements, including those to service the new intergovernmental governance processes of UN-Habitat, should be met by existing structures and by streamlining operations, and encourages Member States to make voluntary contributions for the sustainability and predictability of financial resources;

6. *Invites* Member States, international and bilateral donors and financial institutions to contribute to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary financial contributions, especially non-earmarked contributions, to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including the urban basic services trust fund and other technical cooperation trust funds, invites Governments and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the implementation of its mandate, and requests the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to ensure that reporting on funding is transparent and easily accessible to Member States, including through the creation of an online registry that contains relevant financial information;

7. *Invites* all Member States making financial contributions earmarked for the operational activities of UN-Habitat to ensure that such resources are fully aligned with the strategic plan of UN-Habitat and are in accordance with the priorities of Member States benefiting from those contributions;

Implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

8. *Reaffirms* that, by readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed, the New Urban Agenda will help to end poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequalities, promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in order to fully harness their vital contribution to sustainable development, improve human health and well-being, foster resilience and protect the environment;

9. *Acknowledges* the central role that cities and human settlements can play in sustainable development, and urges UN-Habitat to further support increased participation of governments at all levels and regional organizations in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals relevant to cities and other human settlements, in particular by providing technical assistance aimed at developing the capacity of all levels of governments, especially in developing countries, to plan and implement sustainable urbanization and human settlements programmes and projects;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the national, subnational, local, regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national legislation and practices, as well as policies and priorities;

11. *Urges* UN-Habitat to continue to develop innovative methods, approaches and guidelines for data collection, analysis, monitoring and implementation, with the objective of supporting Member States, especially developing countries, when needed, in dealing with emerging urban challenges and opportunities;

12. *Recognizes* the need to ensure that UN-Habitat has appropriate capacity to generate, manage and disseminate its evidence-based urbanization knowledge, based on its normative and operational work, building on existing international instruments, assessments and information networks to raise public awareness of critical, as well as emerging, urbanization issues;

13. *Urges* UN-Habitat to ensure that its normative and operational activities are balanced, that its normative work guides and is integrated into its operational work and that its experiences in the operational field feed into its normative work;

14. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue to work closely with other entities of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, as key partners in reaching out to Member States in the regions for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the urban and human settlements dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

15. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue its collaboration with international development banks and the private sector to ensure coherence of policy support and the alignment of large-scale urban investments with the principles of the New Urban Agenda and to facilitate increased investment in sustainable urbanization, including through, but not limited to, the Multi-Partner Implementation Facility for Sustainable Urban Development, the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Adaptation Fund and the Climate Investment Funds;

Review and implementation

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a special voluntary trust fund for the purpose of assisting developing countries in attending UN-Habitat Assembly and Executive Board sessions, and invites Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the voluntary trust fund;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, to be entitled "Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)";

19. *Decides*, for its next consideration of this topic, to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session an item entitled "Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 22

Globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled:

"Globalization and interdependence:

"(a) Globalization and interdependence;

"(b) International migration and development"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 17th meeting, on 19 October. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary record.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, on 8, 9 and 10 October.[2] An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 22
Globalization and interdependence

Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Towards a New International Economic Order" (A/73/290)

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/540, A/73/540/Add.1 and A/73/540/Add.2.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.17.

[2] See A/C.2/73/SR.2, A/C.2/73/SR.3, A/C.2/73/SR.4, A/C.2/73/SR.5 and A/C.2/73/SR.6.

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Letter dated 4 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the forty-second annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 27 September 2018 (A/73/417)

Letter dated 22 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Malawi to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 26 September 2018 (A/73/455)

Item 22 (a)
Globalization and interdependence

Letter dated 2 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the outcome document issued on the occasion of the third ministerial meeting of the Like-Minded Group of Countries Supporters of Middle-Income Countries (A/73/469)

Item 22 (b)
International migration and development

Report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development (A/73/286)

4. At the 17th meeting, on 19 October, introductory statements were made by the representative from the Economic Analysis and Policy Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under item 22) and the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under item 22 (b)).

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.[3]

6. At the 27th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee.[4]

[3] See A/C.2/73/SR.23.
[4] See A/C.2/73/SR.27.

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 22 (a)

Globalization and interdependence: globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 22 (A/73/540, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 23rd meeting, on 8 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary record.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.23

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Towards a New International Economic Order" (A/C.2/73/L.23).

3. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

4. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.23 by a recorded vote of 114 to 47, with 4 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:[2]

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/540, A/73/540/Add.1 and A/73/540/Add.2.

[1] See A/C.2/73/SR.23.

[2] Subsequently, the delegation of Japan informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote against, and the delegation of Kenya informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

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In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Armenia, Republic of Korea, Tonga, Turkey.

5. Also at the 23rd meeting, before the vote, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote.

6. At the same meeting, after the vote, the representative of Austria made a statement in explanation of vote, on behalf of the States members of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Towards a New International Economic Order

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

Recalling the principles of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as set out in resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), respectively, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session, on 1 May 1974,

Recalling also its resolutions 63/224 of 19 December 2008, 64/209 of 21 December 2009, 65/167 of 20 December 2010, 67/217 of 21 December 2012, 69/227 of 19 December 2014 and 71/236 of 21 December 2016,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[2]

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[3]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives contained therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those

[1] Resolution 55/2.
[2] Resolution 65/1.
[3] Resolution 66/288, annex.

conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives,

Stressing the need to fulfil all financing for development commitments, including those contained in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[4] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[5] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other relevant outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,

Noting that there have been systemic challenges to the global economic architecture, demanding a review of global economic governance, calling for the reform of the international financial system and the relevant institutions, broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting and in global economic governance, recognizing that it is important that the International Monetary Fund continue to be adequately resourced, and supporting and reiterating its commitment to further governance reform at both the Fund and the World Bank to adapt to changes in the global economy,

Concerned about the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change, which have a negative impact on the development prospects of developing countries and threaten to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries, including the technological and income gap, and which could further undermine the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Concerned also, in this regard, that, although certain regions have made some progress, more than half of the workers in the developing world, about 1.5 billion people, live in vulnerable employment situations, that approximately one in five people in the developing regions live on less than 1.25 United States dollars a day, that 783 million people still live below the international poverty line and that the number of undernourished people has been on the rise since 2014, reaching an estimated 815 million in 2016,

Concerned further about recent economic developments in the context of the continued challenges to achieving sustained economic growth, in which persistently high levels of inequality pose a challenge to robust growth and sustainable development, declining private investment in infrastructure highlights the obstacles to bridging the infrastructure financing gap and advancing the long-term financing of sustainable development, emerging debt challenges and vulnerabilities have intensified across developing countries, global exchange rate volatility has intensified and global inflationary trends have diverged, and that the weak prospects for the global economy put at risk vital public investment in education, health and action on climate change, as well as progress in poverty eradication, especially in developing countries,

Concerned that billions of the world's citizens continue to live in poverty and are denied a life of dignity and that there are rising inequalities within and among countries and enormous disparities of opportunity, wealth and power,

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[4] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Resolution 63/239, annex.

Stressing the lack of strong coordinated international response in dealing with the challenges referred to above, illustrating that the calls made in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order are still highly relevant,

Underlining the need for a more sustainable economic growth and recovery, and recognizing that this goal can be achieved through inclusive multilateralism and the equal participation of all countries, as envisioned, inter alia, in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Recognizing that innovative and enhanced approaches to financing for development are needed to address the challenges posed by the current global economic situation, poverty and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and stressing that these approaches should neither be a substitute for nor negatively affect the level of traditional sources of development financing, including official development assistance, and that they need to be developed in a spirit of partnership, cooperation and solidarity, bearing in mind the common interests and national priorities of each country,

Recognizing also that many relevant aspects of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order have not been implemented and that, consequently, many developing countries continue to face significant challenges to their development prospects, including vulnerability to external shocks and lack of adequate representation in global economic governance,

Recognizing further the role played by regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as well as regional economic integration, based on equality of partnership, in strengthening international cooperation with the objective of facilitating economic coordination and cooperation for development, the achievement of development goals and the sharing of best practices and knowledge,

Recognizing that widespread financial deregulation has contributed to larger net capital outflows from developing countries to developed countries,

Noting with deep concern the impact of illicit financial flows on the economic, social and political stability and development of developing countries,

Concerned that excessively expansionary monetary policies and the ensuing competitive currency devaluations pursued by developed countries have an effect equivalent to an across-the-board export subsidy and a generalized increase in import tariffs, which thus nullify or impair existing World Trade Organization market access commitments and further hinder the capacity of developing countries to fulfil their commitments to implement all the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Stressing the need for policy space to allow for the formulation of national development strategies by developing countries, aimed at bringing prosperity for all,

Concerned with the increasing protectionist measures and adoption of inward-looking policies that undermine the multilateral trading system and increase the vulnerabilities of developing countries, and emphasizing the importance of promoting an open world economy and generating greater positive effects of globalization,

Emphasizing that multilateralism, including a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, is the most appropriate platform of international cooperation for addressing the challenges facing humanity,

Concerned about the financial risks associated with ongoing monetary policy adjustments in developed countries, which could induce instability in the international monetary system, leading to exchange rate depreciation and unsustainable levels of external debt in many developing and emerging economies,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Notes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[7] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[8] and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[9] carry forward many of the ideas and recommendations of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order[10] and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order;[11]

3. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working towards a new international economic order based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States;

4. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

5. *Reaffirms* that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, as well as by respect for each country's policy space;

6. *Also reaffirms* the need to step up coordination of macroeconomic policies among countries to avoid negative spillover effects, especially in developing countries;

7. *Calls for* the fulfilment of the commitment to pursue policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors and to reinvigorate the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

8. *Reaffirms* the recommitment to broadening and strengthening the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries, as well as countries and peoples under foreign occupation, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance, including the need to make the international financial system and the relevant institutions more responsive to the needs and concerns of developing countries;

9. *Also reaffirms* the necessity to respect the territorial integrity, national sovereignty and political independence of States;

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[6] A/73/290.

[7] Resolution 70/1.

[8] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[9] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[10] Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

[11] Resolution 3202 (S-VI).

10. *Calls upon* States to strengthen cooperation, including through relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant regional or international forums, to combat illicit financial flows in all their forms;

11. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth, as well as the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and also reaffirms the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

12. *Stresses* the need to explore the means and instruments needed to achieve debt sustainability and the measures necessary to reduce the indebtedness of developing countries;

13. *Reiterates* the significance of addressing the constraints on technology transfer to developing countries, including the transfer of sound technology from developed countries to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms;

14. *Decides* to continue considering the international economic situation and its impact on development at its seventy-fifth session, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", an updated overview of the major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development and of the role of the United Nations in addressing those issues, as well as possible ways and means to overcome those challenges, bearing in mind the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and the principles contained therein, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the light of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

United Nations A/73/540/Add.2

General Assembly

Distr.: General
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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 22 (b)

Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 22 (A/73/540, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 24th and 25th meetings, on 21 and 28 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.26 and A/C.2/73/L.46

2. At the 24th meeting, on 21 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/73/L.26).

3. At its 25th meeting, on 28 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/73/L.46), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Cédric Braquetti (Monaco), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.26.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.46 had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.46 by a recorded vote of 177 to 3 (see para. 9). The voting was as follows:

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/540, A/73/540/Add.1 and A/73/540/Add.2.

[1] See A/C.2/73/SR.24 and A/C.2/73/SR.25.

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In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Hungary, Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

6. Also at the 25th meeting, before the vote, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote.

7. At the same meeting, after the vote, the representatives of Hungary and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote.

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.46, draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.26 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008, 65/170 of 20 December 2010, 67/219 of 21 December 2012, 69/229 of 19 December 2014 and 71/237 of 21 December 2016 on international migration and development, its resolution 68/4 of 3 October 2013, by which it adopted the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007, 64/166 of 18 December 2009, 66/172 of 19 December 2011, 68/179 of 18 December 2013, 69/167 of 18 December 2014 and 70/147 of 17 December 2015 on the protection of migrants and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also chapter X of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[1] and Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[2] 2008/1 of 11 April 2008,[3] 2013/1 of 26 April 2013[4] and 2014/1 of 11 April 2014,[5]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming further the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing

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[1] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] *See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[3] Ibid., 2008, *Supplement No. 5* (E/2008/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[4] Ibid., 2013, *Supplement No. 5* (E/2013/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[5] Ibid., 2014, *Supplement No. 5* (E/2014/25), chap. I, sect. B.

large movements of refugees and migrants, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 September 2016,[6]

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, which was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[7] and recognizing the linkages between migration and sustainable urbanization and sustainable urban development,

Reaffirming also the Paris Agreement,[8] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[9] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,[10] and those provisions that are applicable to migrants,

Recalling also the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 3 and 4 October 2013, which addressed constructively the issue of international migration and development and explored the opportunities and the challenges that international migration presents, including the protection of the human rights of migrants and the contribution of migrants to development,

Recalling further the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development adopted on 3 October 2013 on the occasion of the High-level Dialogue,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[11] recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[12] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[13] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[14] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[15] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[16] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[17] and recalling also the Declaration on the Right to Development,[18]

Encouraging States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[19] and to consider acceding to relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization, as appropriate,

Recalling the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour

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[6] Resolution 71/1.
[7] Resolution 71/256, annex.
[8] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.
[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[10] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.
[11] Resolution 217 A (III).
[12] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[13] Ibid.
[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.
[15] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[16] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[17] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.
[18] Resolution 41/128, annex.
[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches and dialogue on migration and development, and acknowledging that it has proved to be a valuable forum for holding frank and open discussions, including through multi-stakeholder dialogues, and that it has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders through the exchange of experiences and good practices and by virtue of its voluntary, intergovernmental, non-binding and informal character and the engagement of civil society actors as well as the private sector,

Acknowledging the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the global, regional and national levels, as appropriate, including at the level of the United Nations and other international organizations, in relation to development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[20]

2. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen synergies between international migration and development at all levels, including the global, regional, national and local levels, as appropriate;

3. *Recommits* to ensuring full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and supporting countries of origin, transit and destination in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances;

4. *Notes* the convening of the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018;

5. *Notes also* that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is the first intergovernmentally negotiated outcome, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover international migration in all its dimensions;

6. *Recognizes* that the High-level Dialogues on International Migration and Development have served as forums to advance discussions on the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts;

7. *Notes* that, with the adoption of the Global Compact, the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development shall be repurposed into the International Migration Review Forum, which will serve as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[21] and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, and that the Forum is to be held every four years, beginning in 2022;

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[20] A/73/286.

[21] Resolution 70/1.

8. *Decides* to convene, in the first half of 2019, a one-day high-level debate on international migration and development, under the auspices of the President of the General Assembly, in lieu of the 2019 High-level Dialogue, to inform the high-level political forum on sustainable development, which will review the Goals and targets relevant to migration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into consideration the outcomes of other processes related to international migration and development;

9. *Welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations network on migration;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "International migration and development".

United Nations A/73/541

General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 23

Groups of countries in special situations

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled:

"Groups of countries in special situations:

"(a) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

"(b) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries."

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 19th meeting, on 22 October 2018. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary record.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, on 8, 9 and 10 October.[2] An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 23
Groups of countries in special situations

Letter dated 4 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the forty-second annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/541, A/73/541/Add.1 and A/73/541/Add.2.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.19.

[2] See A/C.2/73/SR.2, A/C.2/73/SR.3, A/C.2/73/SR.4, A/C.2/73/SR.5 and A/C.2/73/SR.6.

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Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 27 September 2018 (A/73/417)

Item 23 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 (A/73/80-E/2018/58)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation, effectiveness and added value of smooth transition measures and graduation support (A/73/291)

Letter dated 22 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Malawi to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 26 September 2018 (A/73/455)

Item 23 (b)
Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 (A/73/297)

4. At the 19th meeting, on 22 October, the Director of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States made an introductory statement and subsequently responded to comments made and questions posed by the Chair of the Committee and the representative of Malawi, in his capacity as Chair of the Least Developed Countries.

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.[3]

6. At the 27th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee.[4]

[3] See A/C.2/73/SR.23.
[4] See A/C.2/73/SR.27.

United Nations A/73/541/Add.1

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 23 (a)

Groups of countries in special situations: follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 23 (see A/73/541, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 23rd and 26th meetings, on 8 and 30 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.31 and A/C.2/73/L.47

2. At the 23th meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" (A/C.2/73/L.31).

3. At its 26th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" (A/C.2/73/L.47), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Hessa Alateibi (United Arab Emirates), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.31.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.47.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/541, A/73/541/Add.1 and A/73/541/Add.2.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.26.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.47 (see para. 8).

6. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.47, draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.31 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration[1] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[2] adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action, and recalling also the Political Declaration adopted at the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[3] held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, and endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action of overcoming the structural challenges faced by the least developed countries to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals and enable graduation from the least developed country category,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[4] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention

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[1] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[2] Ibid., chap. II.

[3] Resolution 70/294, annex.

[4] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

on Climate Change[5] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C*[6] of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Looking forward to the Secretary-General's Climate Summit, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[7] and acknowledging that, in implementing the New Urban Agenda, particular attention should be given to the unique and emerging urban challenges faced by the least developed countries,

Recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and its guiding principles,[8] recalling also its promotion of regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercises, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring a rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs, and acknowledging that its implementation can contribute to achievement of the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,

Recalling also its resolution 72/231 of 20 December 2017 on the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/26 of 24 July 2018 on the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,

Taking note of the 2018 Ministerial Declaration of the least developed countries,[9]

Recalling its resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004 and 67/221 of 21 December 2012 on a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as well its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and emphasizing the importance of their full and timely implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[6] *Global Warming of 1.5°C* is a special report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impact of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.

[7] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[8] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[9] A/73/455, annex.

2020[10] and on the implementation, effectiveness and added value of smooth transition measures and graduation support;[11]

2. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to further strengthen the global partnership for development for the least developed countries in all priority areas of the Istanbul Programme of Action[2] in order to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the Decade, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[12] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[13] which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, the Paris Agreement[4] adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[7] and the New Urban Agenda;[6]

3. *Invites* the private sector, civil society, academia and foundations to contribute to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in their respective areas of competence, in line with the national priorities of the least developed countries;

4. *Recalls* the agreement contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that effective linkages will be made with the follow-up and review arrangements of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including on the least developed countries, underlines the importance of strong synergy in the implementation of the recently adopted agendas and the Istanbul Programme of Action at all levels, and encourages coordination and coherence in the follow-up of their implementation;

5. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced global support to overcome the structural challenges they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard calls upon the international community to prioritize and strengthen support from all sources to facilitate the coordinated implementation and coherent follow-up and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in the least developed countries;

6. *Recognizes* that significant additional domestic public and private resources, including at the subnational level, supplemented by international assistance and foreign direct investment, as appropriate, will be critical for the realization of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda acknowledge the centrality of domestic resource mobilization, underscored by the principle of national ownership;

7. *Also recognizes* that, while the least developed countries have made considerable efforts to mobilize domestic resources and attract private investment, further progress is needed;

8. *Welcomes* the reversal in the decline of official development assistance to the least developed countries in 2017, while expressing its concern that bilateral official development assistance to the least developed countries remains far from the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income committed by many developed countries, as set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action and reaffirmed in the Addis

[10] A/73/80-E/2018/58.

[11] A/73/291.

[12] Resolution 70/1.

[13] Resolution 69/313, annex.

Ababa Action Agenda, and expressing its appreciation to those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitments to 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to developing countries and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, urges all others to step up efforts to increase their official development assistance and to make additional concrete efforts towards the official development assistance targets, reiterates that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, calls upon official development assistance providers to fulfil their respective official development assistance commitments to the least developed countries, and encourages official development assistance providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.2 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, while reiterating that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private;

9. *Encouraged* by those countries which are allocating at least 50 per cent of their official development assistance to the least developed countries;

10. *Welcomes* continued efforts to improve the quality, impact and effectiveness of development cooperation and other international efforts in public finance, including adherence to agreed development cooperation effectiveness principles;

11. *Calls upon* the developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to but not a substitute for North-South cooperation;

12. *Notes* that exports of goods and services of the least developed countries increased by 13 per cent in 2017 after three years of continued negative growth, expresses its concern that the share of goods and services exports, which stood at 0.9 per cent in 2017, remains far from the target of 2 per cent of global exports called for in the Istanbul Programme of Action and target 17.11 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and calls upon the least developed countries and their development partners to take the measures necessary to further accelerate the progress, with a view to achieving the targets of the Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda;

13. *Urges* the least developed countries and their development partners to make use of existing initiatives and programmes, such as the relevant ministerial decisions of the World Trade Organization on duty-free and quota-free market access for the least developed countries and on preferential rules of origin for those countries, as well as aid for trade, reiterates its commitment to increase aid-for-trade support, in particular for the least developed countries, strives to allocate an increasing proportion of aid for trade to the least developed countries, in accordance with development cooperation effectiveness principles, welcomes additional cooperation among developing countries to that end, and encourages the least developed countries to mainstream trade in their national development plans;

14. *Recognizes* that the least developed countries face significant infrastructure gaps, including in the areas of transport, energy and information and communications technology, and reaffirms the need to promote quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure and to enhance infrastructure connectivity with concrete actions, maximizing synergies in infrastructure planning and development;

15. *Emphasizes* that the acute energy gap faced by the least developed countries is a severe constraint on their structural transformation, and stresses that

special attention should be given to the least developed countries, including throughout the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (2014–2024), with a view to ensuring the realization of the objective of access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030 and to addressing the infrastructure needs of the least developed countries;

16. *Recognizes* the significant potential of regional economic integration and interconnectivity to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development in the least developed countries, and stresses the need to strengthen regional cooperation to improve connectivity and competitiveness, increase productivity, lower transaction costs and expand markets;

17. *Also recognizes* that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, while acknowledging that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in such a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, recalls the need to strengthen information-sharing and transparency to make sure that debt sustainability assessments are based on comprehensive, objective and reliable data, encourages Member States to work towards global consensus and best practices on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives, and underlines that the debt sustainability framework for the least developed countries should systematically take into account their structural constraints and longer-term investment requirements for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

18. *Expresses its deep concern* that a number of least developed countries are in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress[14] and that the ratio of debt service to exports has worsened sharply, rising from 4.1 per cent in 2008 to almost 10 per cent in 2017, underlines the urgent need to address the debt problems of the least developed countries, and stresses the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of the least developed countries and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, when applicable, to address the debt problem of those countries, including through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief, debt restructuring and sound debt management, as appropriate, for the multilateral and bilateral debt owed by the least developed countries to creditors, both public and private, reiterates its commitment to work through existing initiatives, such as the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and reaffirms the importance of transparency in debt management;

19. *Expresses its concern* that foreign direct investment flows to the least developed countries contracted by 17 per cent in 2017 compared with 2016, with continued concentration on extractive and related industries, and underlines the need to take the measures necessary at all levels to further accelerate foreign direct investment in the least developed countries;

20. *Encourages* the least developed countries, in accordance with their national plans and priorities, and with the full support of their development partners, to develop their capacities to track financial transactions, administer taxation and regulate customs and to redouble their efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation, and also encourages the United Nations and other relevant international bodies to help to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

21. *Recalls* target 17.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which the General Assembly decided to adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for

[14] See International Monetary Fund, Debt Sustainability Analysis: Low-Income Countries.

least developed countries, and underlines the need for its early implementation, invites the Secretary-General, in his capacity as the Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to retain the issue of investment promotion regimes for the least developed countries in the agenda of the Board, with a view to enhancing the overall effectiveness of the support provided by the United Nations system to increase the flow of foreign direct investment to the least developed countries and the ability of those countries to attract such investment, and in that context takes note of the initiative of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Labour Organization, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies, to set up a capacity-development programme for the investment promotion agencies of the least developed countries, and calls for financial support to operationalize this programme;

22. *Welcomes* the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries and the inauguration of its headquarters in Gebze, Turkey, which signify the achievement of the first Sustainable Development Goal target, target 17.8, takes note with appreciation of the contributions that Bangladesh, India, Norway and Turkey have made, as well as the pledges made by the Philippines and the Sudan, and invites Member States, as well as international organizations, foundations and the private sector, to provide voluntary financial contributions and technical assistance to the Technology Bank to ensure its effective operation;

23. *Expresses its deep concern* that, owing to significant capacity constraints, the least developed countries are disproportionately affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea-level rise, coastal erosion, salinity intrusion, glacial lake outburst floods, ocean acidification and the rise in frequency, as well as the impact, of natural and man-made disasters, which further threaten food security, health and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and expresses its concern that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change and other environmental issues;

24. *Recognizes* that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development, and also recognizes the synergies between the implementation of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, acknowledges the importance of continued support for and international cooperation on adaptation and mitigation efforts and on strengthening resilience, stresses the necessity of adequate and predictable financial resources from a variety of sources, including public and private ones, highlights the specific needs and special circumstances of developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, recognizes that effective disaster risk management contributes to sustainable development, and in this regard underlines the importance of strengthening disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the consequences of disasters;

25. *Underlines* the importance of peaceful and inclusive societies for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recalls the objectives of the Istanbul Programme of Action of: enhancing good governance at all levels by strengthening democratic processes, building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions and the rule of law; increasing efficiency, coherence, transparency and participation; protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms; reducing corruption and curbing illicit financial flows; and strengthening the capacity

of the Governments of the least developed countries to play an effective role in their economic and social development;

26. *Recognizes* the importance of developing domestic capital markets in the least developed countries, which can help channel the growing pool of domestic savings towards productive investments, reaffirms the commitment to enhance international support in developing domestic capital markets in developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries, and reaffirms its commitment to work to strengthen capacity-building in this area, including through regional, interregional and global forums for knowledge-sharing, technical assistance and data-sharing, on mutually agreed terms;

27. *Reaffirms* that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls and the full realization of the human rights of all people are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, and reiterates the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies in the least developed countries;

28. *Recognizes* that particular efforts are needed to ensure that all young people, including girls, enjoy access to lifelong learning opportunities and equal access to quality education at all levels, inclusive of early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary education, as well as technical and vocational training, notes with concern, in this regard, the lack of progress in closing gender gaps in access to, retention in and completion of secondary education, recognizes the need to continue to provide and encourage, as appropriate, institutes of higher education to allocate places and scholarships for students and trainees from the least developed countries, in particular in the fields of science, technology, business management and economics, and to strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the global, regional and national levels, and recognizes that the least developed countries have the most to gain from sustainable development and utilizing the full skills and talents of their people, including women and girls;

29. *Also recognizes* that increasing participation, empowering civil society, youth and women and strengthening collective action will contribute to the eradication of poverty and the achievement of sustainable development;

30. *Underlines* the need to reduce the vulnerability of the least developed countries to economic, natural and environmental shocks and disasters, as well as climate change, and to enhance their ability to meet these and other challenges by strengthening their resilience, and in this regard stresses that it is important that all countries and other actors work together to further develop and implement concrete measures, on an urgent basis, at the national and international levels so as to build the resilience of the least developed countries to withstand economic shocks and mitigate their adverse effects, to withstand and overcome the adverse effects of climate change, to enhance sustainable growth and protect biodiversity and to withstand natural hazards in order to reduce the risk of disasters, as agreed upon in the Istanbul Programme of Action;

31. *Also underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for national and international action to enhance efforts to build resilience, especially for the most vulnerable, including through mainstreaming resilience into investment decision-making, building resilience through sustainable management of ecosystems and value chains and building resilience to reduce the impact and cost of natural disasters;

32. *Further underlines* the importance of improving the coordination and effectiveness of resilience-building initiatives for the least developed countries by leveraging existing measures at the national, regional and global levels to respond to various types of disasters and shocks, as elaborated in the 2017 report of the Secretary-General;[15]

33. *Encourages* countries to develop national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020, in accordance with target (*e*) of the Sendai Framework, recognizes the importance of promoting their alignment and integration with sustainable development and climate change adaptation strategies, recognizes that the development of climate change adaptation and national disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020 is an opportunity to maximize synergies across the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework, and in this regard calls for disaster risk reduction to be considered in the review of and follow-up to the Istanbul Programme of Action;

34. *Reiterates* the call to substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for the implementation of the Sendai Framework by 2030;

35. *Congratulates* those countries that have met the criteria for graduation from least developed country status, notes with appreciation that several least developed countries have expressed their intention to reach the status of graduation by 2020, invites those countries to start the preparations for their graduation and transition strategy, and requests all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, led by the Office of the High Representative, to extend necessary support in this regard, in a coordinated manner;

36. *Acknowledges* that the graduation of a country symbolizes its considerable long-term socioeconomic progress, prevailing over the structural handicaps to socioeconomic development, and that it also presents many challenges for graduated countries, which continue to face vulnerabilities to various shocks and crises;

37. *Invites* the least developed countries and development partners to integrate graduation and smooth transition strategies into their respective national development and aid strategies, as appropriate, including capacity-building and technical assistance to diversify sources of financing;

38. *Notes with appreciation* that some development partners have extended some of the benefits specific to the least developed countries to countries that have graduated, taking into account the challenges they continue to face, and invites all development partners to strengthen their support for graduation and smooth transition so that graduating and recently graduated countries can minimize disruption in their development trajectory;

39. *Invites* countries that are found eligible for graduation to establish a consultative mechanism, in line with General Assembly resolution 67/221, to prepare the transition strategy as early as possible, engaging all relevant donors and stakeholders;

40. *Recognizes* that the activities relating to the least developed countries carried out within the Secretariat need to be further coordinated and consolidated in order to ensure the effective monitoring and follow-up of the Istanbul Programme of Action, led by the Office of the High Representative, and to provide well-coordinated

[15] See A/72/270, report of the Secretary-General on crisis mitigation and resilience-building for the least developed countries.

support to realizing the goal of enabling half of the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020;

41. *Takes note* of the work of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group for the least developed countries, led by the Office of the High Representative, notes the steps taken by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the High-level Committee on Programmes in supporting the coordination and follow-up of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action on a system-wide basis, and reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the Chief Executives Board, to include the implementation of the Programme of Action in the agenda of the Board;

42. *Recalls* paragraph 157 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 on holding a Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in order to make a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action and to decide on subsequent action, and decides to convene the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government, in 2021 for a duration of not more than five working days, with the following mandate:

(a) To undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action by the least developed countries and their development partners, share best practices and lessons learned and identify obstacles and constraints encountered as well as actions and initiatives needed to overcome them;

(b) To identify effective international and domestic policies in the light of the outcome of the appraisal as well as new and emerging challenges and opportunities and the means to address them;

(c) To reaffirm the global commitment to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries made at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including in the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework;

(d) To mobilize additional international support measures and action, in addition to domestic resources, in favour of the least developed countries and, in this regard, to formulate and adopt a renewed partnership between the least developed countries and their development partners, including the private sector, civil society and governments at all levels;

43. *Decides* to convene, towards the end of 2020 and/or early in 2021, an intergovernmental preparatory committee, which would hold no more than two meetings for no more than five days each;

44. *Also decides* to take a decision on the organizational aspects, date and venue of the Conference and on the venue, duration and dates of the preparatory committee meetings at its seventy-fourth session;

45. *Further decides* that the meeting of the preparatory committee will be preceded by two regional preparatory meetings, each no longer than three days, one in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the other in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in the context of the regular annual session of each Commission, with those regional meetings to be supported by broad-based and inclusive country-level preparations;

46. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations as a critical input to the preparatory process for the Conference and in the implementation of and follow-up to its outcome, and calls upon the Governments of the least developed countries to submit their reports in a timely manner;

47. *Stresses* that the Conference and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for 2020 and 2021 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner possible;

48. *Decides* that the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States will be the focal point for the preparations for the Conference, in accordance with mandates given by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001, to ensure that those preparations are carried out effectively and to mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of the entire United Nations system;

49. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, the funds and programmes, the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide necessary support and to contribute actively to the preparatory process and the Conference itself;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as appropriate, the full involvement of resident coordinators and country teams in the preparations for the Conference, in particular in the country-level and regional preparations;

51. *Strongly encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the trust fund in support of activities undertaken by the Office of the High Representative to support the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action and the participation of the representatives from the least developed countries in the high-level political forum on sustainable development of the Economic and Social Council as well as in other relevant forums and the preparatory process of the Conference , and in this regard expresses its appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and the Istanbul Programme of Action, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries";

53. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session a progress report on the implementation, effectiveness and added value of smooth transition measures covering both graduating and recently graduated countries, including new and dedicated support measures to graduated countries in moving forward on their development path and initiatives taken by the United Nations system to support countries during their graduation from the least developed country category.

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Groups of countries in special situations: follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 23 (see A/73/541, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 23rd and 26th meetings, on 8 and 30 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.30 and A/C.2/73/L.48

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries" (A/C.2/73/L.30).

3. At its 26th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries" (A/C.2/73/L.48), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Hessa Alateibi (United Arab Emirates), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.30.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.48 had no programme budget implications.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/541, A/73/541/Add.1 and A/73/541/Add.2.

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.26.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary orally corrected the tenth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 10, 25 and 26 of the draft resolution.

6. Also at its 26th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.48, as orally corrected (see para. 9).

7. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and the representative of the United States of America made statements.

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.48, as orally corrected, draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.30 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,[1] at which all relevant stakeholders expressed their commitment to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action of addressing the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockedness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner and thus contributing to an enhanced rate of sustainable and inclusive growth, which can contribute to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty,

Recalling its resolutions 71/239 of 21 December 2016 and 72/232 of 20 December 2017,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[2] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

[1] Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

[2] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[4] while recognizing that landlocked developing countries face some specific disaster risk challenges, and reiterating the commitment to addressing disaster risk reduction and building resilience to disasters within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda,[5] adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and recognizing the importance of sustainable urban development for landlocked developing countries,

Welcoming the holding of the 2018 Global Infrastructure Forum, in Bali, Indonesia, on 13 October 2018, on the theme "Unlocking inclusive, resilient and sustainable technology-driven infrastructure", and taking note of its outcome,

Taking note of the transport infrastructure gap in landlocked developing countries and the need to bring the level of transport infrastructure up to global standards, and in this regard the crucial importance of strong national and international partnerships to bridging the gap,

Recognizing the specific needs and special circumstances of developing country parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, as provided for in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the operational activities for development of the United Nations system to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets and high transit costs and risks, continues to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and the domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affects their overall growth and socioeconomic development,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration[6] and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[7] the first programme of action for the landlocked developing countries,

Acknowledging the importance of promoting collaboration between landlocked developing countries and transit countries on the basis of common interest, and noting that collaboration efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national priorities, while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments,

[4] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[5] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.

[7] Ibid., annex I.

Recognizing the need to promote both public and private investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technologies, taking into account the special vulnerabilities and needs of landlocked developing countries,

Taking note of the Astana Ministerial Declaration, adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries on Trade and Transport, held in Astana on 16 and 17 May 2018, in the context of the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action,

Acknowledging the need to promote meaningful regional integration to encompass cooperation among countries and the importance of enhancing existing transport infrastructure facilities for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action,

Reaffirming that achieving food security and improving nutrition, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all, achieving inclusive and equitable quality education, achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls, as well as ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, are important for achieving sustainable development, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Taking note of the declaration of the annual ministerial meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries held at United Nations Headquarters on 28 September 2018 on the theme "Revitalizing partnerships to enhance the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Recognizing that the Vienna Programme of Action, which is integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is based on renewed and strengthened partnerships for accompanying landlocked developing countries in harnessing benefits from international trade, structurally transforming their economies and achieving more inclusive and sustainable growth,

Taking note of the Livingstone Call for Action for the Accelerated Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, adopted at the high-level follow up meeting to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Livingstone, Zambia, in June 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024;[8]

2. *Welcomes* the recognition of the special needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[9] and in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[10] and affirms that their effective implementation, together with the implementation of the six priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[11] can drive the social and economic progress of landlocked developing countries and assist in their transformation from landlocked to land-linked countries;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, and stresses that the concerns and specific challenges of landlocked developing countries should be given consideration, as appropriate, in the implementation, follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

[8] A/73/297.
[9] Resolution 70/1.
[10] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[11] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

4. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries face specific challenges in their efforts towards the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and the pursuit of sustainable development, and in this regard underlines the importance of continued international support to complement the efforts of landlocked developing countries;

5. *Also recognizes* that efforts will need to be scaled up and sustained in order to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030 in landlocked developing countries;

6. *Invites* the landlocked developing countries, transit countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to implement the relevant actions, consistent with national priorities, agreed upon in the Vienna Programme of Action in its six priority areas in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner;

7. *Reiterates its invitation* to development partners to provide targeted technical and financial support, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the specific actions listed in the Vienna Programme of Action;

8. *Invites* Member States that have not yet done so to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into their national and sectoral development strategies in order to ensure its effective implementation, and encourages development partners, the United Nations system and the relevant international and regional organizations to continue to provide technical support, within their respective mandates, to the landlocked developing countries in their efforts to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda into their national development strategies;

9. *Encourages* landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to mainstream the 2030 Agenda into their national development planning and foster coherence in its implementation with the Vienna Programme of Action;

10. *Stresses* that the harmonization, simplification and standardization of rules and documentation should be promoted, including the full and effective implementation of international conventions on transport and transit and bilateral, subregional and regional agreements, and invites Member States that have not joined the existing conventions to consider the possibility of accession, stresses also that cooperation on fundamental transit policies, laws and regulations between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours is crucial for the effective and integrated solution of cross-border trade and transit transport problems, and underlines that this cooperation should be promoted on the basis of the mutual interests of both landlocked developing countries and transit countries;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the special needs of landlocked developing countries, inter alia, by establishing and promoting efficient transit transport systems, including roads, railroads and inland waterways, that link landlocked developing countries to international markets, reaffirms that the Vienna Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels, and in this regard highlights the need to establish secure, reliable, efficient, high-quality, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including transit transport systems, renewable energy and information and communications technology, with the support of development partners, multilateral financial and development institutions and regional banks;

12. *Notes* that, despite the continued growth of air passenger and freight transport, landlocked developing countries are still faced with low volumes of freight transported by air, and stresses that air transport is particularly important, as it provides landlocked developing countries with direct access to international markets;

13. *Invites* landlocked developing countries and transit countries to consider ratifying, as appropriate, relevant international trade and transport facilitation conventions;[a]

14. *Underlines* that infrastructure development plays a key role in reducing the cost of development for landlocked developing countries and that the development and maintenance of transit transport infrastructure, information and communications technology and energy infrastructure are crucial for landlocked developing countries in order to reduce high trading costs, improve their competitiveness and become fully integrated into the global market;

15. *Stresses* that the magnitude of the resources required to invest in infrastructure development and maintenance remains a major challenge and requires the forging of international, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation on infrastructure projects, the allocation of more resources from national budgets, the effective deployment of international development assistance and multilateral financing in the development and maintenance of infrastructure and strengthening of the role of the private sector, and recognizes that both public and private investment have key roles to play in infrastructure financing, including through development banks, development finance institutions and tools and mechanisms such as public-private partnerships, blended finance, which combines concessional public finance, non-concessional private finance and expertise from the public and private sector, special purpose vehicles, non-recourse project financing, risk mitigation instruments and pooled funding structures;

16. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and transit countries, in a coordinated manner, to develop and upgrade international transport and transit corridors encompassing all modes of transportation, such as inland waterways, roads, rail networks, ports and pipelines, in order to address the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries;

17. *Underlines* the significance of international transport corridors for reducing trade costs and promoting regional sustainable development, recognizes that joint regional efforts to reduce transit time through corridor facilitation contribute to improving export competitiveness and attracting more business to landlocked developing countries, and invites the international community to provide, within existing resources, support in this regard;

18. *Acknowledges* that impediments to private investment in infrastructure exist on both the supply and the demand side and that insufficient investment is due in part to inadequate infrastructure plans and an insufficient number of well-prepared investable projects, along with private sector incentive structures that are not necessarily appropriate for investing in many long-term projects and risk perceptions of investors, encourages landlocked developing countries to embed resilient and quality infrastructure investment plans into their national sustainable development strategies, while also strengthening their domestic enabling environments, and calls upon the international community to provide technical support to landlocked developing countries to translate plans into concrete project pipelines, as well as support for individual implementable projects, including for feasibility studies, the negotiation of complex contracts and project management;

[a] Including the Customs Convention on Containers (Geneva, 2 December 1972), the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles (Geneva, 18 May 1956), the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (Geneva, 14 November 1975), the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (Geneva, 21 October 1982) and the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation (2013).

19. *Encourages* multilateral development banks, including regional banks, in collaboration with other stakeholders, to address gaps in trade, transport and transit-related regional infrastructure, including by completing missing links connecting, inter alia, landlocked developing countries within regional networks;

20. *Invites* the multilateral financial and development institutions to consider how they can best support landlocked developing countries with infrastructure development, including through project financing, planning for operations and maintenance, technical and regulatory advice and project preparation;

21. *Stresses* the importance of universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services and the need for accelerating sustainable energy for all in landlocked developing countries, including through innovative partnerships;

22. *Underlines* that greater integration of landlocked developing countries into world trade and global as well as regional value chains is vital for increasing their competitiveness and diversification and ensuring their economic development, and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to provide assistance, within existing resources, to landlocked developing countries to strengthen their capacity to participate in regional and global value chains;

23. *Recognizes* that services sectors are important enablers of trade in goods and effective participation in international trade and global value chains, that efficient services sectors enhance productivity, reduce the cost of doing business and promote job creation and that landlocked developing countries should be supported so as to increase the share of services in their economies and exports, including through enabling policies;

24. *Stresses* that improved trade facilitation, including through further streamlining and harmonization of customs and transit procedures and formalities and transparent and efficient border management and coordination of agencies involved in border clearance, would help landlocked developing countries to enhance the competitiveness of their export products and services;

25. *Recognizes* the importance of the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation in addressing high trade and transit costs, and in this regard calls for its full and timely implementation by all members of the World Trade Organization, calls upon those members that have not yet done so to deposit their instrument of acceptance, where appropriate, as soon as possible, and in this regard urges members and relevant international and regional organizations to continue to provide and enhance technical and capacity-building assistance, particularly for the effective implementation of the provisions of articles on the release and clearance of goods, border agency cooperation, formalities connected with importation, exportation and transit, freedom of transit and customs cooperation, which are very relevant for landlocked developing countries;

26. *Also recognizes* that the growth in e-commerce provides international trade opportunities for landlocked developing countries, including new market opportunities, and encourages development partners to consider assisting landlocked developing countries in developing information and communications technology infrastructure and helping to ensure that appropriate policies and legal and regulatory frameworks are in place to support the development of information and communications technology and close the digital divide;

27. *Stresses* the need to promote meaningful regional integration to encompass cooperation among countries in a broader range of areas than just trade and trade facilitation, including investment, research and development and policies aimed at accelerating regional industrial development and regional connectivity, that this approach is aimed at fostering structural change and economic growth in landlocked developing countries as a goal, and also as a means of collectively linking regions to global markets, that this would enhance competitiveness and help to maximize benefits from globalization and that documentation and the sharing and dissemination of best practices are important to allow cooperating partners to benefit from each other's experience;

28. *Recognizes* that the economies of many landlocked developing countries are still reliant on a few export commodities, which often have low value addition, stresses the need for renewed and strengthened partnerships for development to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base and enhancing value addition to their exports by entering and moving up global value chains through the development of their productive capacities, including through private sector involvement, and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the products of landlocked developing countries in export markets, and welcomes the establishment of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

29. *Underlines* that, in order for landlocked developing countries to fully utilize their export and trade potential, it is important to undertake measures, consistent with relevant international rules and obligations, that promote structural economic transformation capable of reducing the negative impact of their geographical disadvantages and external shocks, creating jobs and ultimately leading to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and inclusive and sustainable growth and development, stresses that each landlocked developing country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and in this regard stresses that the national development efforts of landlocked developing countries need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment;

30. *Emphasizes* that infrastructure, industry and innovation are strongly connected, share the common goal of achieving inclusive and sustainable economic development and contribute to poverty eradication, and recognizes that inclusive and sustainable industrialization that provides open and equal social and economic opportunities for all, including women and girls, is integral to the structural transformation of the economies of all countries, including the landlocked developing countries;

31. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries remain highly vulnerable to external economic shocks and to the multiple other challenges faced by the international community;

32. *Also recognizes* that landlocked developing countries are vulnerable to and remain negatively affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, land degradation, desertification, deforestation, floods, including glacial lake outburst floods, and droughts, recognizes the potential benefits of mutually addressing these challenges, and calls upon the international community to continue to support the efforts of landlocked developing countries to address these challenges in an integrated manner, as appropriate;

33. *Underlines* that South-South and triangular cooperation are vital to the landlocked developing countries, especially in the areas of productive capacity-building, infrastructure, energy, science and technology, trade, investment and transit

transport cooperation, and in this regard highlights the importance of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation in addressing the needs of countries in special situations;

34. *Notes with appreciation* the inauguration of the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries as the first-ever intergovernmental entity of the landlocked developing countries, invites the International Think Tank to continue to undertake its role of supporting the development efforts of the landlocked developing countries, urges those landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to ratify, at their earliest convenience, the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries, and invites relevant stakeholders to support the International Think Tank;

35. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries and their transit country neighbours need to effectively mobilize adequate domestic and external resources for the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, reaffirms that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underlined by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including the implementation of the Programme of Action, and also recognizes that international public finance plays an important role in complementing those efforts, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources;

36. *Underlines* the prominent role that foreign direct investment plays in accelerating development and poverty reduction through employment, the transfer of managerial and technological know-how, on mutually agreed terms, and non-debt-creating flows of capital, recognizes the considerable role and potential of private sector involvement in infrastructure development for transport, telecommunications and utilities for landlocked developing countries, encourages Member States to facilitate foreign direct investment flows to landlocked developing countries in this regard, and calls upon landlocked and transit developing countries to promote an enabling environment to attract foreign direct investment and private sector involvement;

37. *Reiterates* that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, with providers of official development assistance reaffirming their respective commitments;

38. *Recognizes* the essential role of the private sector in the development of landlocked developing countries, and in this regard underlines the need to continue promoting the participation of the private sector in achieving sustainable development and the critical importance of mobilizing private resources, including through foreign direct investment, for the development of landlocked developing countries, taking into account the leading role of Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Vienna Programme of Action;

39. *Invites* developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation, within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to, but not a substitute for, North-South cooperation;

40. *Invites* development partners to effectively implement the Aid for Trade initiative in assisting landlocked developing countries to address their special needs and requirements, including capacity-building for the formulation of trade policies, participation in trade negotiations and the implementation of trade facilitation measures, as well as the diversification of export products;

41. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and invites international organizations and relevant regional and subregional organizations, to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their programmes of work, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, and to support landlocked and transit developing countries in their implementation of the Programme of Action in a well-coordinated and coherent manner;

42. *Underlines* the importance of increasing the availability and use of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by sex, age, geography, income, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, stresses the need to enhance capacity-building support for developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, for this purpose, and reaffirms the commitment to strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data;

43. *Recognizes* that it is important for all countries, including landlocked developing countries, to commit to a world in which all women and girls enjoy full gender equality with men and boys and all legal, social and economic barriers to their empowerment and equality have been removed;

44. *Reaffirms* its resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations development system, in which it urged the United Nations development system to enhance its support for, inter alia, the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system to integrate and mainstream it fully into their operational activities for development;

45. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, in which it agreed on reforms to improve the United Nations system's collective support to countries as they implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

46. *Urges* that coherent and effective linkages be made between the implementation, follow-up and review arrangements for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and those of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including the Vienna Programme of Action;

47. *Underlines* the importance of the successful implementation of, follow-up to and review of the Vienna Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

48. *Stresses* that, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States should continue to ensure the coordinated follow-up to, effective monitoring of and reporting on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and undertake advocacy efforts at the national, regional and global levels;

49. *Reaffirms* its decision, in its resolution 72/232, to convene, as called for in paragraph 78 of the Vienna Programme of Action, a comprehensive high-level midterm review on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Decade 2014–2024, to be held no later than December 2019, that the Office of the High Representative shall coordinate the preparatory process, that all relevant United Nations system organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and other relevant organizations, within their respective mandates and within existing resources, shall be invited to provide support to the review process, that the high-level midterm review shall be preceded by regional preparatory meetings, as appropriate and within existing resources, that the high-level midterm

review shall adopt an intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome in the form of a political declaration, that the midterm review and its preparation shall be conducted within existing resources and that all costs relating to the midterm review and its preparation shall be financed through voluntary contributions;

50. *Also reaffirms* that the comprehensive high-level midterm review shall review progress made by the landlocked developing countries, transit countries and development partners in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and shall be a forum for sharing best practices and lessons learned and identifying obstacles and constraints encountered and actions and initiatives needed to overcome them, as well as new challenges and emerging issues, in order to further accelerate the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

51. *Decides* to hold no more than two days of high-level plenary meetings of the General Assembly devoted to the midterm review in early December 2019, to be chaired by the President of General Assembly;

52. *Also decides* to invite the President of the General Assembly to chair the high-level midterm review, requests the President of the Assembly to convene informal consultations, as required, and in the most efficient and effective manner, to finalize its outstanding organizational arrangements, including the dates, and to facilitate the preparation of an outcome document for the midterm review, and in this regard welcomes the appointment by the President of the General Assembly of co facilitators to lead the informal consultations;

53. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in close consultation with the relevant United Nations system organizations, to prepare a draft outline of the outcome document of the midterm review so as to facilitate the intergovernmental consultations, taking into account the outcomes of the regional meetings and the reports of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

54. *Encourages* all Member States, in particular landlocked and transit developing countries and donor countries, as well as the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, to participate actively in the midterm review at the highest possible level, and reiterates the critical importance of the full and effective participation of the landlocked developing countries in the high-level midterm review process;

55. *Stresses* the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, in the comprehensive high-level midterm review and its preparatory process;

56. *Decides* that the comprehensive high-level midterm review and its preparatory process shall be open to participation by all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and observers in the General Assembly;

57. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations as a critical input to the preparatory process for the comprehensive high-level midterm review and to the implementation of and follow-up to its outcome, and in this context calls upon the landlocked developing countries to undertake their national reviews on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, with a particular focus on progress, obstacles, constraints, actions and measures necessary to further its implementation, in close collaboration with the Office of the High Representative;

58. *Strongly encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the

trust fund in support of activities undertaken by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to support the implementation of, follow-up to and monitoring of the Vienna Programme of Action, including the preparations for and organization of the high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a progress report on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for its high-level midterm review, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries", unless otherwise agreed.